

# From the “We all make mistakes” filing cabinet

These examples have been reported as coming from actual trial transcripts.

- **Lawyer:** "Doctor, before you performed the autopsy, did you check for a pulse?"
  - **Witness:** "No."
  - **Lawyer:** "Did you check for blood pressure?"
  - **Witness:** "No."
  - **Lawyer:** "Did you check for breathing?"
  - **Witness:** "No."
  - **Lawyer:** "So, then it is possible that the patient was alive when you began the autopsy?"
  - **Witness:** "No."
  - **Lawyer:** "How can you be so sure, Doctor?"
  - **Witness:** "Because his brain was sitting on my desk in a jar."
  - **Lawyer:** "But could the patient have still been alive nevertheless?"
  - **Witness:** "Yes, it is possible that he could have been alive and practicing law somewhere."
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- **Lawyer:** "When he went, had you gone and had she, if she wanted to and were able, for the time being excluding all the restraints on her not to go, gone also, would he have brought you, meaning you and she, with him to the station?"
  - **Other Lawyer:** "Objection. That question should be taken out and shot."
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- **Lawyer:** "Are you married?"
  - **Witness:** "No, I'm divorced."
  - **Lawyer:** "And what did your husband do before you divorced him?"
  - **Witness:** "A lot of things I didn't know about."
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- **Lawyer:** "Doctor, how many autopsies have you performed on dead people?"
  - **Witness:** "All my autopsies have been performed on dead people."
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- **Lawyer:** "Were you acquainted with the deceased?"
  - **Witness:** "Yes sir."
  - **Lawyer:** "Before or after he died?"
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- **Lawyer:** "Mrs. Jones, is your appearance this morning pursuant to a deposition notice which I sent to your attorney?"
  - **Witness:** "No. This is how I dress when I go to work."
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- **The Court:** "Now, as we begin, I must ask you to banish all present information and prejudice from your minds, if you have any."
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